

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Application in light of the Final Office Action dated July 14, 2011. Claims 1-15, 19 and 20 are pending in this Application. Claims 1-15, 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 16-18 were previously cancelled by Applicants without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-15 and 19-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,920,185 by Hinson (“*Hinson*”) in view of U.S. Patent 6,393,109 by Willer (“*Willer*”), and further in view of U.S. Patent 7,058,172 by Jiang (“*Jiang*”).

Hinson discloses a distributed block frequency converter that combines and up-converts multiple channels for transport via selected media.

Willer discloses methods and systems for controlling transmission of data between network stations connected to a telephone line medium. Low pass filters, each configured for passing UPN protocol digital signals and rejecting local area network signals, are connected at each digital PBX terminal end and each digital end equipment terminal end of a corresponding two-wire bus. (Col. 3, Lines 17-22). A first high pass filter configured for passing the local area network signals and rejecting the UPN protocol digital signals is connected across a corresponding node of each of the two-wire busses connected to the digital PBX terminal end and a second high pass filter configured for passing the local area network signals and rejecting analog telephony signals is connected between the first high pass filter and another two-wire bus connected to the analog PBX terminal ends. (Col. 3, Lines 25-34).

Jiang discloses a long distance bi-directional driver for Ethernet transmission. A forward transmission circuit includes impedance matching circuits with resistances to reduce or prevent reflecting of signals on transmission lines and a frequency compensation circuit with inductances used to compensate the high frequency components of transmission signals in order to keep the balance of the amplitudes of every frequency components. (Col. 2, Line 53 to Col. 3, Line 6).

Claim 1 recites an information handling system comprising, among other elements, “the inductive devices selected and coupled to the board-mounted transmission lines to offset

at least one electrical characteristic of the communication switch such that one or more electrical characteristics of selected board-mounted transmission lines may be tuned to substantially approximate one or more electrical characteristics required by a communication protocol on the external network.”

Claim 9 recites a circuit board for use in an information handling system comprising, among other elements, “the inductive devices selected and positioned to offset an electrical characteristic of the Ethernet switch such that an impedance measure from the Ethernet physical layer transceiver to an external Ethernet network connection on the circuit board substantially matches an impedance measure required by a communication protocol on the external Ethernet network.”

Claim 19 recites an information handling system communication pathway comprising, among other elements, “at least one of the four pairs of board-mounted transmission lines having included on each board-mounted transmission line an inductive device serially coupled thereto, selection and placement of the inductive devices to offset an electrical characteristic of the electronic switch such that substantial impedance matching is achieved with a communication protocol on a communication network to be connected to the information handling system.”

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited portions of the references fail to disclose each and every element of Applicants’ invention. *Hinson, Willer and Jiang*, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose an information handling system comprising “the inductive devices selected and coupled to the board-mounted transmission lines to offset at least one electrical characteristic of the communication switch such that one or more electrical characteristics of selected board-mounted transmission lines may be tuned to substantially approximate one or more electrical characteristics required by a communication protocol on an external network,” as recited in Claim 1. *Hinson, Willer and Jiang*, either alone or in combination, additionally fail to teach or suggest a circuit board comprising “the inductive devices selected and positioned to offset an electrical characteristic of the Ethernet switch such that an impedance measure from the Ethernet physical layer transceiver to an external Ethernet network connection on the circuit board substantially matches an impedance measure required by a communication protocol on the external Ethernet network,” as recited in Claim 9. *Hinson, Willer and Jiang*, either alone or in combination, further fail to disclose an information handling system communication pathway comprising “at least one of the four

pairs of board-mounted transmission lines having included on each board-mounted transmission line an inductive device serially coupled thereto, selection and placement of the inductive devices to offset an electrical characteristic of the electronic switch such that substantial impedance matching is achieved with a communication protocol on a communication network to be connected to the information handling system,” as recited in Claim 19.

The Examiner contends that “*Jiang* teaches the use of impedance matching circuits to reduce or prevent the reflection of signals (electrical characteristic) on transmission lines received from an Ethernet switch via Ethernet interfaces as spoken of on column 3, lines 43-60.” (Office Action, Page 4). Applicants respectfully disagree. First, the impedance matching circuits of *Jiang* are composed of resistive elements R8-R12, R4-R7, R1-R3, and R13-R14, not inductive elements. (Col. 2, Lines 56-58; Col. 3, Lines 8-9, 24-30). Second, *Jiang* teaches the use of inductors in frequency compensating circuits that “increase the gain for the higher frequency components of the signals in order to keep the balance of the amplitudes of every frequency component.” (Co. 1, Lines 60-65). Thus, *Jiang* fails to teach “inductive devices” selected to “offset at least one electrical characteristic” of a communication switch, an Ethernet switch or an electronic switch as found in Claims 1, 9 and 19. The cited references fail to disclose the recited elements and, therefore, cannot render obvious Claims 1, 9 and 19.

Given that Claims 2-8 depend from Claim 1, Claims 10-15 depend from Claim 9, and Claim 20 depends from Claim 19, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2-8, 10-15 and 20 are also allowable. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and allow Claims 1-15, 19 and 20.

No Waiver

All of Applicants’ arguments and amendments are without prejudice or disclaimer. Additionally, Applicants have merely discussed example distinctions from the references relied upon. Other distinctions may exist, and Applicants reserve the right to discuss these additional distinctions in a later Response or on Appeal, if appropriate. By not responding to additional statements made by the Examiner, Applicants do not acquiesce to the Examiner’s additional statements. The example distinctions discussed by Applicants are sufficient to overcome the rejections asserted in the present Office Action.

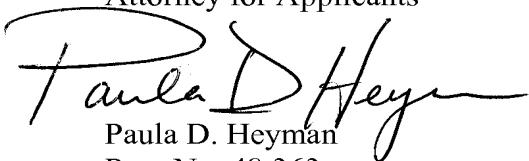
CONCLUSION

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's careful review of the application. Applicants have now made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the remarks set forth above. For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections and full allowance of Claims 1-15, 19 and 20.

Applicants believe there are no fees due at this time, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicants' attorney at 512.322.2555.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: August 25, 2011

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